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Thursday 6th January 2022

Dear families

Firstly, I would like to welcome you all back to school following our Christmas break. Although it is lovely to return to a routine, I am very aware that things are far from normal as Covid-19 continues to threaten our communities putting pressure on our lives both personally and professionally. This time last year, we did not return to face to face teaching in January and I am thankful that this is not the case in 2022. We are looking forward to a term which is busy and productive.

Staffing

At the end of this week, we will bid a fond farewell to Mrs Louise Anderson who has been appointed as the Head Teacher of Marykirk School. Mrs Anderson has fulfilled class teacher, acting principal teacher and acting depute head teacher roles during her time here. We will really miss Mrs Anderson but know she will be very happy at Marykirk School. Mrs Catherine Albiston and Mrs Kirsty McHattie will join our staff as permanent members of our team and I know that they are looking forward to meeting their new class and colleagues. Mrs Albiston will teach the class Monday to Thursday with Mrs McHattie on Fridays. We look forward to welcoming our newest recruits from the week beginning 10th January 2022.

Mr Mark Steer and Ms Fiona Shoulder have been appointed as Acting Principal Teachers this term. Miss Duncan and I are thrilled to welcome Mr Steer and Ms Shoulder into our Senior Leadership team due to the energy, enthusiasm and experience they both bring. Ms Cheyne will be joining our team this term to teach P6 on a Monday whilst Mr Steer fulfils his new role and Mrs Nelson will support the Enhanced Provision Class on a Wednesday.



Burns

Every year we love to have a whole school focus on a Scottish topic alongside our Scottish poetry topics. This year will be no different and Mr Steer will be in touch soon with details about this work and how you can support at home. There is always a buzz around Burns in school and I always feel very proud of the effort and commitment shown by all through this work.

Absence Information

If your child is to be absent from school please let the School Office know. Seesaw is not to be used for this. We operate a 24 hour answering machine service and the machine is checked regularly. If your child is isolating and you feel that they are up to engaging in some school work then please refer to the Contingency Learning tab on the school website.

Dates for diaries

Thursday 10th February is a mid term holiday.

Friday 11th February is a mid term holiday.

Monday 14th February is a mid term holiday.

Tuesday 15th February and Wednesday 16th February are inservice days so school is closed for ALL pupils.

Please also note a change to holidays in Term 4. In recognition of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022, the May Day holiday has been moved from Monday 2nd May 2022 to Thursday 2nd June 2022 and Friday 3rd will be an additional public holiday.

Kindest Regards

Jill Smith
Head Teacher